



## TALES OF THE RIVERMAN 61



### Lamps

Some years ago I was asked to stand by in a boat below the St Andrews Bridge while restoration work took place. At the end of the restoration I was allowed to keep the old lamps that had been on the Bridge. I had already retrieved one lamp from the bed of the river using my grappling irons, broken off and thrown into the river by some passing vandals. They were in a bad way and needed a lot of work, beating some of the metal back into shape, removing years and years of paint, replacing windows and some of the top decoration.



After all that had been completed I had to find poles to put them on. Well you would be surprised just how many signposts there are all over Glasgow that are just left after a job is finished (as it costs money to remove them), so it did not take me long to source such poles and get permission to take them.



The poles were cut to size, some full length and some small to fit on top of gate pillars.

The top of the pillars were cleaned to allow the short poles to be welded into place and the long poles concreted into the ground.



The lamps looked so good that everyone wanted them to be lit, but at a cost of 5 grand this was a non-starter. So I bought some solar lights and made bases and adjusted them to sit inside the lamps. It took several months of trial and error to get the solar lights at the correct height to work, but the results are excellent.



In all a very good piece of recycling.



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